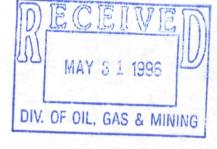
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

Michael O. Leavitt Governor Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D. Executive Director Don A. Ostler, P.E. Director 288 North 1460 West P.O. Box 144870 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870 (801) 538-6146 Voice (801) 538-6016 Fax (801) 536-4414 T.D.D.

May 29, 1996



Water Quality Board Keith W. Welch Chairman Lynn F. Pett Vice Chairman R. Rex Ausburn, P.E. David S. Bowles, Ph.D., P.E. Nan Bunker Leonard Ferguson Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D. Joe C. Nielson K.C. Shaw, P.E. J. Ann Wechsler Leroy H. Wullstein, Ph.D. Don A. Ostler, P.E. **Executive Secretary**

Mr. Shawn D. Davis
Construction Engineer
Barrick Resources (USA) Inc.
Barrick Mercur Gold Mine
P.O. box 838
Tooele, Utah 84074

Dear Mr. Davis:

Subject: Construction Permit - Reservation Canyon Tailing Impoundment: 1996

We have completed our review of the plans and specifications for Expansion of the Reservation Canyon Tailing Impoundment, prepared by the staff of Barrick Mercur Gold Mine, and submitted to us on April 23, 1996.

The plans and specifications as submitted, comply with the Utah Water Quality Rules, (R317, Utah Administrative Code). A Construction Permit is hereby issued as constituted by this letter, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Any revisions or modifications to the approved plans and specifications must be submitted to the Division of Water Quality (the Division) for review and approval, before construction or implementation thereof.
- 2. The approved facilities must not be placed in service unless the Division has made a final inspection, and has authorized in writing to place the constructed facilities in service.

This construction permit will expire one year from the date of issuance of the this letter, unless substantial progress is made in constructing the approved facilities. This permit does not relieve you in any way of your obligations to comply with other applicable local requirements, or those stated in the permit issued under the *Utah Pollutant Discharge Elimination System*. You may



Mr. Shawn D. Davis May 29, 1996 Page 2

contact Mr. Jeff Coombs of the Tooele County Health Department at 801-882-9241 for further assistance in this regard.

The construction will include raising the tailings reservoir structure 15 feet from the present confinement elevation of 7330 feet to a new confinement elevation of 7345 feet and making other modifications to the tailing impoundment. This would be accomplished by (1) extending the liner to the 7350 elevation; (2) Installing a composite liner system to complete the east bay pond; (3) Installing a deposition system along the North and East shore lines; and, (4) Finishing the zone II buttress fill along the toe of the levy buttress. The impoundment liner will be a clay shale liner with a minimum of twelve (12) inches in compacted thickness. The field hydraulic conductivity of the compacted clay liner will be 1 X 10-7 centimeter per second or less. The clay liner will be protected from erosion and desiccation cracking by using four to six inches of unclassified of earthen fill, and a woven geotextile, AMOCO 2006 or equivalent.

A set of approved plans and specifications is returned herewith bearing an imprint of our construction permit stamp. The stamped set must be kept available for examination and inspections to be conducted by the Division, or for resolution of any conflicts or discrepancies that may arise during construction or installation.

Please advise us of the beginning of construction. This will enable us to schedule periodic inspections. We request that a copy of record drawings be provided after the final inspection has been conducted by the Division, and completed works have been placed in service. This will enable us to keep our information accurate.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact Mr. Lyle W. Stott of my staff.

Sincerely,

Utah Water Quality Board

Don A. Ostler, P.E. Executive Secretary

Executive Secretary

Wayne Hedberg - Division of Oil, Gas and Mining Myron Bateman - Tooele County Health Department

DAO:LWS:erb

N:BAR.TAL.CP FILE:BARRICK